



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Christopher et al.

Serial No:

09/900,532 July 6, 2001

Filed: For:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATED PREPARAT

OF AN OPTICAL FIBER

Examiner:

George R. Koch III

Art Unit:

1734

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 27, 2003.

Kate Emerson

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, which corresponds to claims 1-31, drawn to a fiber preparation apparatus, classified in class 156, subclass 510.

## **REMARKS**

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on February 26, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. The Examiner has set forth a restriction requirement including claims 1-31 in Group I and claims 32-67 in Group II. By the foregoing, Applicants have elected to restrict examination to claims 1-31 in Group I.

Having made this election, Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications on the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Favorable action is hereby earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any concerns with the foregoing election, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to advance this application.

Date: May 27, 2003

x05/26/03

Art Unit: 1734

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825

Respectfully submitted, Christopher et al., Applicant(s) GROUP 1700

By:

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